## Re Oil Industry Turns to Mergers and Acquisitions to Survive (October 19):

Your story warns there is no recovery in sight for the US oil and gas industry. This is at best incomplete.

Yes, global demand has been temporarily squeezed by the pandemic and consequent lockdowns. But this is undoubtedly a short-term problem and energy markets will continue to expand, fuelled by emerging economies hungry for growth.

Turkey is a proof point. After years of rapidly increasing sales from the US, it's poised to become a new hub for gas, distributing supplies to the Mediterranean and Middle East and playing a role in setting prices -- a 'Henry hub' for the gateway between East and West. This development, built on years of infrastructure investment, will be fuelled by US LNG shipments.

Estimates vary but 'peak oil' – when fossil fuels are meant to be replaced by renewables – has been wrongly predicted for decades. What instead is happening today is a rise of LNG: cleaner, cheaper fuel that is powering economic growth.

Renewables, too, will rise but not in isolation. And LNG will help make that happen, as it is often called a 'bridge' to renewable solutions. The global energy future has been shaken by the events of 2020 but the prospects for American gas in new and growing markets such as Turkey is bright.

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